

JERRY S. BUSBY  
Nevada Bar #001107  
GREGORY A. KRAEMER  
Nevada Bar #010911  
COOPER LEVENSON, P.A.  
3016 West Charleston Boulevard - #195  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89102  
(702) 366-1125  
FAX: (702) 366-1857  
[jbusby@cooperlevenson.com](mailto:jbusby@cooperlevenson.com)  
[gkraemer@cooperlevenson.com](mailto:gkraemer@cooperlevenson.com)

Attorneys for Defendant  
SMITH'S FOOD & DRUG CENTERS, INC.

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**

**DISTRICT OF NEVADA**

MARGARET LOVELOCK, an individual;  
  
Plaintiff,

vs.

SMITH'S FOOD & DRUG CENTERS, INC.  
d/b/a SMITH'S, a foreign corporation; DOE  
SMITH'S FOOD & DRUG CENTERS,  
INC.'S EMPLOYEES 1-10; DOE JANITORS  
1-10; DOE MAINTAINERS 1-10; DOE  
PROPERTY MANAGERS 1-10; ROE  
JANITORIAL SERVICES 1-10; ROE  
MAINTENANCE SERVICES 1-10;  
OWNERS 1-10; DOE INDIVIDUALS 1-10,  
and ROE ENTITIES 1-10, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No.

**NOTICE OF REMOVAL**

Defendant, SMITH'S FOOD & DRUG CENTERS, INC. ("SMITH'S") hereby gives notice of its removal of Case No. A-20-822882-C from the Eighth Judicial District Court, Clark County, Nevada, to this Court. This Notice of Removal is filed pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§1441(a) and 1446. As grounds for removal, SMITH'S states as follows:

**I.**

**NOTICE OF REMOVAL IS TIMELY**

1. On October 13, 2020, Plaintiff MARGARET LOVELOCK, filed this lawsuit against SMITH'S. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1446(a), a complete copy of the state court file, including the

1 Complaint and process, is attached hereto as Exhibit “A”.

2 2. SMITH’S was served with process on or about November 2, 2020. SMITH’S hereby  
3 reserves any and all rights and defenses to Plaintiff’s Complaint.

4 3. The Complaint filed and served on SMITH’S merely alleged that “As a direct and  
5 proximate result of the negligence of Defendants, Plaintiff sustained injuries to Plaintiff’s shoulders,  
6 back, bodily limbs, organs and systems, all or some of which conditions may be permanent and  
7 disabling, and all to Plaintiff’s damage in a sum in excess of \$15,000.00.” (Compl. ¶25).

8 4. Defense counsel learned that the value of this case was sufficient for Federal  
9 jurisdiction on December 10, 2020. On that date, Plaintiff filed and served a Request for Exemption  
10 from Arbitration in the pending State Court litigation. Therein, Plaintiff alleges that her medical  
11 bills total \$109,363.93. (Pl.’s Petition at 3).

12 Upon receiving this information, Defense counsel learned that the “amount in controversy”  
13 exceeds the jurisdictional minimum for diversity jurisdiction.

14 5. This Notice of Removal is timely filed under 28 U.S.C. §1446(b), which provides:

15 If the case stated by the initial pleading is not removable, a notice of  
16 removal may be filed within thirty days after receipt by the defendant,  
17 through service or otherwise, of a copy of an amended pleading,  
18 motion, order or other paper from which it may first be ascertained  
19 that the case is one which is or has become removable, except that a  
20 case may not be removed on the basis of jurisdiction conferred by  
21 section 1332 of this title more than 1 year after commencement of the  
22 action.

23 6. The following pleadings have been entered and/or filed in State Court:

- 24 a. Plaintiff’s Complaint filed October 13, 2020;
- 25 b. Demand for Jury Trial filed October 13, 2020;
- 26 c. Summons and Affidavit of Service filed November 10, 2020;
- 27 d. SMITH’S Answer to Plaintiff’s Complaint filed November 23, 2020;
- 28 e. Plaintiff’s Request for Exemption from Arbitration was served on  
December 10, 2020; and
- f. Commissioner’s Decision on Request for Exemption was served on  
December 29, 2020.

7. Other than the pleadings discussed above, no further proceedings have taken place in District Court, Clark County, Nevada as of the filing of this notice of removal.

## II.

### **DIVERSITY JURISDICTION EXISTS**

8. This is a civil action over which this Court has original jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1332. This action may be removed pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1441, because the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000, exclusive of interest and costs; the suit involves a controversy between citizens of different states; and none of the properly joined defendants is a citizen of Nevada.

#### **A. The Amount in Controversy Requirement is Satisfied.**

9. Plaintiff's Complaint merely alleged that "As a direct and proximate result of the negligence of Defendants, Plaintiff sustained injuries to Plaintiff's shoulders, back, bodily limbs, organs and systems, all or some of which conditions may be permanent and disabling, and all to Plaintiff's damage in a sum in excess of \$15,000.00." (Compl. ¶25).

10. In addition to the above, Plaintiff's Request for Exemption from Arbitration served on December 10, 2020 indicated that Plaintiff's medical bills total \$109,363.93. (Pl.'s Petition at 3).

#### **B. The Parties Are Diverse.**

11. The diversity of citizenship requirement is satisfied. SMITH'S is informed and believes that Plaintiff was at the time of her Complaint a citizen and resident of the State of Nevada. (*See* Compl. ¶1) .

12. SMITH'S was at the time of the filing of Plaintiff's Complaint and is now an Ohio Corporation with its principal place of business in the State of Utah.

## III.

### **REMOVAL TO THIS JURISDICTION IS PROPER**

13. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§1332, 1441, and 1446, removal of the above-captioned state court action to this Court is appropriate.

14. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1441(a), removal is made to this Court as the district and division embracing the place where the state action is pending 28 U.S.C. §108.

15. SMITH'S reserves the right to amend or supplement this Notice of Removal.

